

**Status Report on Capital Improvements and Utility Upgrade Projects**  
**September 2014**

Below is a status update on the various capital and utility infrastructure upgrade projects currently on-going or in planning throughout the Village. In an effort to provide timely and accurate information regarding the progress of these projects, a dedicated page has been created on the Village's website for project updates. Residents can access the page from the Village's website [www.chevyCHASEvillagemd.gov](http://www.chevyCHASEvillagemd.gov) by clicking on the "Capital Improvements and Utility Upgrade Projects" link under the "News" tab or contact the Village's Director of Municipal Operations Michael Younes at (301) 654-7300 [michael.younes@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:michael.younes@montgomerycountymd.gov).

The Village thanks you in advance for your patience as we undertake and oversee these various projects to increase utility service reliability and infrastructure maintenance and upgrades to make the Village a safer community for all.

**Planning and Construction Status**

	Status	Duration/ Remaining	Est. Construction Start Date	Est. Construction Completion Date
<b><u>Village Initiated</u></b>				
Streetlight Upgrades	Pilot Program	1-2 years	TBD	TBD
Sidewalk Replacements	Project Hold	1 year	Fall 2014	June 2015
Street Maintenance and Repairs	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	September 2014
Village Hall Repairs	Project Bidding	7 months	November 2014	May 2015
W. Kirke St. and Laurel Pkwy. Intersection Improvements	Project Bidding	7 months	November 2014	May 2015
<b><u>In-Partnership with M-NCPPC</u></b>				
Western Grove Park Development	Final Engineering	1 year	Ongoing	December 2014
<b><u>Utility Upgrades</u></b>				
Washington Gas Main Replacements/Upgrades	Under Construction	1 month	Ongoing	September 2014
WSSC Sewer Rehabilitations	Phase 1 – Complete Phase 2 – Project Bidding	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b><u>State Projects</u></b>				
Wisconsin Ave. Sidewalk Extension	Under Construction	1 month	Ongoing	September 2014
Connecticut Ave. Repaving	Under Construction	1 month	Ongoing	September 2014

▶ **Village Initiated**

◦ **Streetlight Upgrades**

- ▶ The Village is six (6) months into our LED streetlight pilot program.
- ▶ Thus far, resident feedback has been mixed regarding the test lights.
- ▶ Direct-mail letters have been sent to all residents advising them of the test lights and soliciting feedback.
- ▶ Thus far only twenty-seven (27) surveys have been returned.
- ▶ Staff has recirculated the pilot program questionnaire in the September edition of the *Crier* to solicit additional resident feedback.
- ▶ Staff anticipates making a final report and possible recommendation to the Board at its November meeting.

◦ **Sidewalk Replacements**

- ▶ The Village's sidewalk contractor is scheduled to begin year 4 sidewalk replacements in October.
- ▶ The following sections of sidewalks are slated for replacement:
  - ▶ East Kirke Street
  - ▶ East Melrose Street Circle
  - ▶ Grove Street (between Oliver Street and Cedar Parkway)
  - ▶ Intersection of Kirkside Drive and Grove Street
  - ▶ Nevada Avenue
  - ▶ Summerfield Road
  - ▶ Sidewalk extension along Kirkside Drive (between 5505 Kirkside Drive and Western Avenue).

◦ **Street Maintenance and Repairs**

- ▶ Repaving operations are progressing smoothly.
- ▶ All repaving will be complete by September 8, with the exception of Broad Branch Road, which will be repaved following the completion of the Washington Gas replacement work (anticipated to be completed the week of September 22).
- ▶ Correspondence has been sent to residents detailing the extents of the repaving and a tentative schedule is available on the Village website.

◦ **Village Hall Repairs**

- ▶ Under New Business for the September Board meeting, staff will be presenting its work plan for the various repairs that are required to the Village Hall.
- ▶ Repairs will include:
  - ▶ Replacing the asphalt and membrane roof surfaces
  - ▶ Gutter replacement and upsizing
  - ▶ Interior and Exterior Painting
  - ▶ Misc. repairs to replace the bathroom partitions in the men's and women's restrooms that are rusted in places and do not properly fit and other general repairs throughout the Village Hall and office.
- ▶ Currently, Village staff is in the project bidding phase and anticipates recommending contract award at the October Board meeting.

- **W. Kirke St. and Laurel Pkwy. Intersection Improvements**
  - ▶ Included in the FY2015 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget is a study of the pedestrian and vehicular traffic flows through the intersections at Connecticut Avenue, Laurel Parkway and West Kirke Street for potential safety improvements surrounding the entrance/driveway to the Village Hall.
  - ▶ The project includes hiring a traffic engineer to evaluate and design proposed safety improvements.
  - ▶ The study will determine what mitigation measures that should be implemented to address several safety concerns with the existing intersection to improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the area.
  - ▶ Improvements to be investigated will include, but are not limited to, the construction of a traffic island at the intersection of West Kirke Street and Connecticut Avenue; studying traffic flows along Laurel Parkway and sidewalk improvements in the adjacent West Kirke Street/Laurel Parkway combined public right-of-way. In addition, modifications to the surface treatment of the roadway in front of the Village Hall on Laurel Parkway would also be studied to determine if surface modifications could potentially aid in the safety pedestrians seeking to access the Village Hall. Such treatments include changing the surface to brick, installing brick crosswalks or elevated crosswalks.
  - ▶ Currently, Village staff is in the project bidding phase and anticipates recommending contract award at the October Board meeting.
- ▶ **In-Partnership with Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission**
  - **Western Grove Park (formerly known as “Chevy Chase Open Space Park”) Development**
    - ▶ On May 22, the County Council unanimously approved funding in the County’s FY2015 capital budget for the final design and construction of the Western Grove Park.
    - ▶ Village and Park & Planning staffs are currently working to finalize design plans for construction and permitting.
    - ▶ Construction on the park is anticipated to begin in late winter 2015.
    - ▶ When complete the park will include the following: two hard surface lighted walking paths; a naturalistic children’s play area with stepping stone boulders, log seats, and a living hut of bent branches and a human sundial; low ornamental fencing along the Western Avenue frontage amidst a grove of existing trees to safely prevent children from dashing out into Western Avenue; a seating area with moveable furniture and water feature, and Wi-Fi access
- ▶ **Utility Upgrades**
  - **Washington Gas Main Replacements/Upgrades**
    - ▶ Gas contractors are in the process connecting homes along Broad Branch Road to the new gas main. Once complete the old main will be deactivated.
    - ▶ All work is scheduled to be completed by September 19.

- **WSSC Sewer Rehabilitations**

- ▶ Phase 1 sewer main rehabilitations have been completed.
- ▶ WSSC is currently in the project bidding phase for the next round of sewer main rehabilitation which will take place on the sewer main that bisects Laurel Park.
- ▶ Currently, there is no timetable for this work due to permitting delays with the Maryland Department of Environment.

- ▶ **State Projects (Maryland State Highway Administration)**

- **Wisconsin Avenue Sidewalk Extension**

- ▶ Construction is moving along slower than anticipated.
- ▶ SHA's contractor is almost complete installing the 2 retaining walls abutting the Chevy Chase Club.
- ▶ As the retaining walls are complete the new sidewalk is installed.
- ▶ Currently, sidewalk extends between Bradley Lane and the north retaining wall.
- ▶ SHA and the Chevy Chase Club are currently working out the design details of the fence that will abut the Club's property. Due to these delays it is likely that the fence will be installed following the completion of the sidewalk.
- ▶ The sidewalk construction is being fully funded by SHA.
- ▶ Construction is slated to last through the end of September, weather permitting.

- **Connecticut Avenue Repaving**

- ▶ Roadway paving operations along Connecticut Avenue have been completed along the main line and in Chevy Chase Circle.
- ▶ Over the next week, SHA contractors will finish paving the side street intersections and prepare the roadway for permanent lane markings.
- ▶ All work on the avenue should be completed by the end of September.